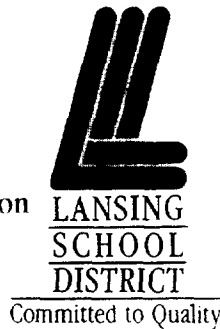


March 8, 1996

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW
Washington DC 20554



RECEIVED

MAR 14 1996

FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: MM Docket No. 95-176

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

This is in response to the number of people served by closed captioning and those not served.

Here at Everett High School, 13 students are hearing impaired. Within the Lansing School District more than 70 students are hearing impaired, and in our Ingham Intermediate School District the number is more than 250.

In addition to being necessary for deaf and hard of hearing students to have equal access to television, videos, and films, captioning has proven beneficial to students with learning disabilities, those learning English as a second language, and all people who have not developed reading skills to their full potential. An estimated one-half of the school student and staff population of 2000 would derive benefit from captioned media. Please see Appendix I and II for more comments.

Regarding Appendix III, those cable programs that currently provide captioned programming are greatly utilized by our student and staff here at Everett. We have given thanks to CNN for *CNN Newsroom*, *Worldview* and Discovery for *Assignment Discovery*. These programs are copyright cleared, and taped and used on a daily basis.

Regrettably, A&E's *Classroom*, including ironically a biography on Helen Keller, is not captioned. A&E is taped regularly for classroom use.

Also not captioned is *NICK News*, and *C-SPAN Close UP*.

In addition to copyright cleared programs for taping, in classrooms any cable station may be shown for both learning and entertainment. Frequently programming by ESPN, the Discovery Channel, and the Learning Channel are not captioned. This represents a great disservice to students and staff who are deaf or hard of hearing.

In addition to network and cable tv programming, the FCC should enforce the rights of deaf and hard of hearing students and staff to equal access through captioning in all forms of media programming, including pre-recorded videos and films used by school districts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Everett High School
3900 Stabler Street
Lansing, Michigan 48910

Dale H. Glynn
Principal

No. of Copies made
Listed on Form

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Leslie Darling, BS., QA I
Interpreter for the Hearing Impaired

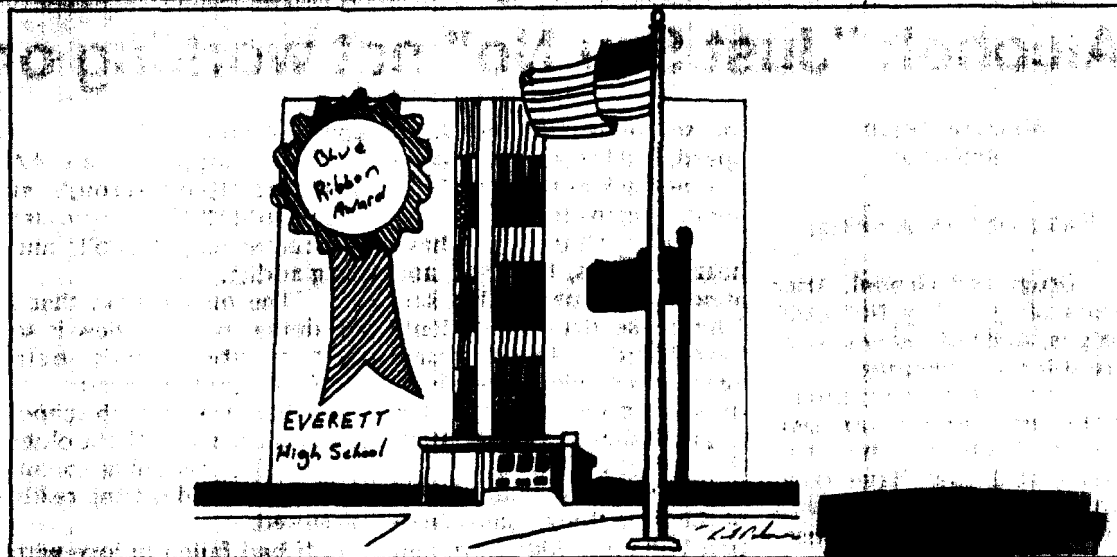
An Equal Opportunity District

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Culture. Religion. Gen-
der. Ability. Diversity. All of
these go into making up the
wonderfully exquisite kaleido-
scope of our world. A world
which encompasses Everett
High School, staff and student
population, and extends far
beyond these walls and halls.

The week of February
19-23 was declared Respect
Week within these walls. We
applaud the time, talent and
toil which went into the plan-
ning and production of the
activities involved in this week.
The staff worked hard to in-
sure inclusion of all the wide
variety of differences we re-
present.

We find it sadly ironic
that the all-school video pro-
gram "Respecting Others", hon-
oring people of various cul-
tural and linguistic back-

grounds, was not closed-cap-
tioned for students and staff
who are deaf or hard of hear-
ing.

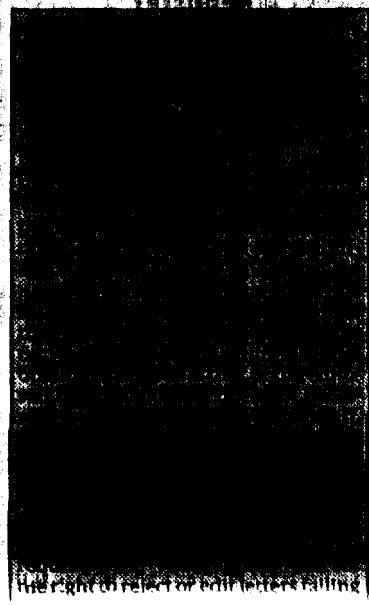
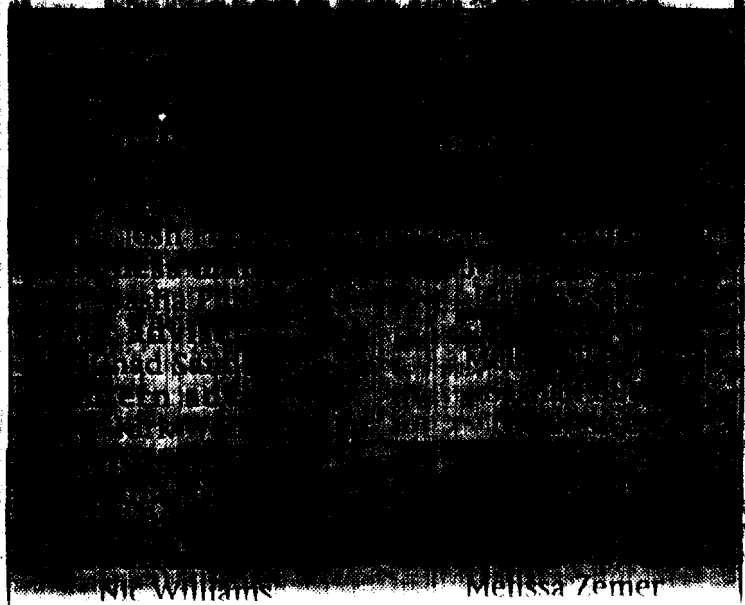
Education access for deaf
and hard of hearing people.
Additionally, captioning has
proven beneficial to people
learning English as a Second
Language, those who have
learning disabilities and those
who have yet to develop their
reading skills to full potential.

The demand and the Americans with
Disabilities Act have been a
major force in the captioning
of most major network televi-
sion programs in recent years.
this demand is not being heard
by the manufacturers of many
educational videos. How can
we be respectful of the people
who benefit from captioning
and still be handing money

over to companies which bla-
tantly deny these people's
rights because it's not "cost
effective"? They are, after all,
such a small group.

Unfortunately, by not
taking a stand and hitting these
companies in their wallets
(which seems to be where their
respect lies) our school system
is disrespecting the needs of
more than just the 250 deaf
and hard of hearing students
in Ingham County.

Sign language interpreters
Teachers of the Hearing
Impaired



THE VIKING VOICE

3900 STABLER ST.
LANSING, MI 48910

EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL

VOLUME
FEBRUARY

Respect Week gets mixed reviews; video criticized for lacking close-captioning

Nicholas Williams
sports editor
Jenny Grace
Melissa Zemer
reporters

R-E-S-P-E-C-T. The word 'respect' means different things to everyone. To some it means holding the door open for someone else. To others it means using polite words such as 'please' and 'thank you'.

The week of February 20-24 was observed as Respect Week at Everett. The purpose was to foster respect among students, staff and the community. Activities included a school-wide video presentation and several contests.

On Tuesday morning, most people at Everett watched an educational video entitled *Respecting Others*. Students were also shown footage of a teachers' meeting at which teachers Joshua Hicks, Pam Schaffer-Brown, Alfonso Salais, Mari Castellon and Rich Heider lip-synced to Aretha Franklin's hit *Respect*. A number of students enjoyed Tuesday's activities.

"I liked it because it gave me something to tease Mr. Salais about," said senior Cecelia Hernandez.

Others felt the video didn't deal with issues relevant to Everett students.

"I think the movie showed how things are in middle school," said junior Jeann Pham. "People should be over that name calling stage by high school."

Unfortunately, not all Everett students were able to watch the video even though Respect Week organizers had planned as such.

"I couldn't find another classroom to go into," said math teacher Larry Weidner. "I do not have a VCR in my classroom."

Some teachers chose not to show the video because they had other plans.

"I chose not to show the video," said teacher Jeff Kennedy. "The Social Studies Department gets stuck with all of the special programs that Everett allows to come in. We also have a special criteria of work that we must teach. So I felt I could not take any more time out of my teaching."

Although some students were able to watch the video, they didn't get the full effect. The lack of close-captioning on the video brought difficulty to hearing impaired students. They had to rely solely on interpreters.

"When I watch and interpret, I miss a lot of what is happening on the television screen," said sophomore Earl Patterson who is deaf. "I do not get the full effect of what is taking place."

The lack of close-captioning was not the fault of Everett. The manufacturer failed to close-caption the video.

"When it came to this video, I chose the best that was available," said media specialist Pat Pochert. "We have

Stop the Insanity



ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?: Junior Ethan Reynold and Michele McCarty perform in 'The Insanity of Mary Ghar' won districts and regionals and advanced to the state.

see story

looked into close-captioning English teacher. Our whole library. It, however, is too expensive. That's definitely a step."

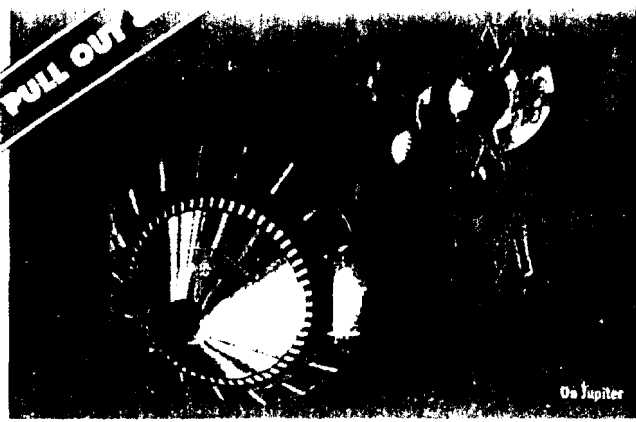
Many people felt the Respect Week was a stepping stone for the school as a whole.

"This week put respect in everyone's mind," said

After the week was over, the change carried on a re throughout the

EVERETT WINS BLUE RIBBON
AWARD

SENIOR WILL WORK FOR
DATE



Classroom

This month's calendar sponsored by



CLASSROOM

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

Appendix III March

TAPING HIGHLIGHTS

A sampling of the programs scheduled for this month is shown below. For a complete listing of all programs, please refer to the Classroom magazine. For more information on the programs, please contact your local Classroom representative.

THIS MONTH:

On Jupiter (DSC)
This computer animation and satellite imagery features a look at our fast spinning planet that is actually large enough to swallow all of the other known planets, with room to spare. Mar 6 Pg. 36

The Power of Weather (TWC)
Fun, colorful experiments sponsored by a meteorologic system. The Weather Channel and a student presented demonstrate the energetic power of weather. Mar 16 Pg. 37

Biography: Pocahontas: Ambassador to the New World (A&E)
A&E's first on-screen memorial to a Native American woman who bridged the gap between two cultures. Mar 24 Pg. 24

The Nuremberg Trial (CTN)
From TV's Class Action program, inter students through history to see that by taking an in-depth look at its participants and key events, as well as the law upon which it was based. Saturdays Pg. 32

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat / Sun
<p>Sitting Bull and the Great Sioux Nation (THC) This program profiles the leader of the Hunkpapa band of the Great Sioux who fought against the U.S. Army and was known for his bravery, generosity, and wisdom. Mar 27 Pg. 30</p> <p>Choose or Lose '96 (MTV) pg. 1</p> <p>SportsFigures (ESPN2) pg. 10</p> <p>Paul Erdos: The Wandering Mathematician (DSC) pg. 11</p> <p>SportsFigures (ESPN2) pg. 33</p> <p>NewsTalk Television: Weekly Teen Segment (NTTV) pg. 14</p> <p>Inside Space (SFC) pg. 35</p> <p>Choose or Lose '96 (MTV) pg. 1</p> <p>Great Cheyenne Nations (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>The Power of Weather (TWC) pg. 1</p> <p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>Tom Skilling's Alaska (WGN) pg. 18</p> <p>Inside Space (SFC) pg. 35</p>	<p>TLC Elementary (TLC) pg. 1</p> <p>Displaced Person (BRV) pg. 1</p> <p>Warren Diary Part 1 (DSC) pg. 31</p> <p>TLC Elementary (TLC) pg. 1</p> <p>NewsTalk Television: Weekly Teen Segment (NTTV) pg. 14</p> <p>Inside Space (SFC) pg. 35</p> <p>Choose or Lose '96 (MTV) pg. 1</p> <p>Great Cheyenne Nations (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>The Power of Weather (TWC) pg. 1</p> <p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>Tom Skilling's Alaska (WGN) pg. 18</p> <p>Inside Space (SFC) pg. 35</p>	<p>On Jupiter (DSC) pg. 36</p> <p>Royal Collection: The Collectors (BRV) pg. 1</p> <p>Herpes Hispanos: Part 1 (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>Royal Collection: Kingdom of Nature (BRV) pg. 1</p> <p>Nick News: Special Edition (NICK) pg. 1</p> <p>The Life of Agatha Christie (A&E) pg. 1</p> <p>The Brain: Our Mysteries Within (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>The V-Sales (A&E) pg. 1</p> <p>The Washington Journal (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p> <p>Signs and Symbols (DSC) pg. 1</p> <p>Today's Life Choices (F&V) pg. 1</p>	<p>Rocking the Boat (LIFE) pg. 1</p> <p>Warren Diary Part 2 (DSC) pg. 31</p> <p>Daughters at Work (LIFE) pg. 1</p> <p>Kidnapped: Part 1 (FAM) pg. 1</p> <p>Heroes Hispanos: Part 2 (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>Scott Ross: Facing Fear (FAM) pg. 1</p> <p>Biography: Eleanor Roosevelt (A&E) pg. 1</p> <p>Sitting Bull and the Great Sioux (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>Biography: Pocahontas (A&E) pg. 1</p> <p>Out of the Past: Signs and Symbols (DSC) pg. 1</p> <p>Today's Life Choices (F&V) pg. 1</p>	<p>Goals 2000 (DSC) pg. 1</p> <p>Today's Life Choices (F&V) pg. 1</p> <p>Kidnapped: Part 2 (FAM) pg. 1</p> <p>Heroes Hispanos: Part 3 (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>Young Indiana Jones (FAM) pg. 1</p> <p>Chief Joseph: The Nez Percé War (THC) pg. 1</p> <p>The United Nations: No Place to Hide (DSC) pg. 1</p> <p>It's Incredible! (TOON) pg. 1</p> <p>The Shaman and His Apprentice (A&E) pg. 1</p> <p>Close Up on C-SPAN: Global Warming (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p>	<p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>Smart Living (WBC) pg. 1</p> <p>Scholastic Sports America (ESPN) pg. 1</p> <p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>America and the Courts (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p> <p>Scholastic Sports America (ESPN) pg. 1</p> <p>Today's Life Choices (F&V) pg. 1</p> <p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>Scholastic Sports America (ESPN) pg. 1</p> <p>British Politics "Question Time" (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p> <p>The Nuremberg Trial (CTN) pg. 1</p> <p>American Perspectives (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p> <p>Scholastic Sports America (ESPN) pg. 1</p> <p>Chinua Achebe Project: The Night of the Sorcerer (WGN) pg. 1</p> <p>Teen Summit: Parents Too Soon (BET) pg. 1</p> <p>Sunday Journal (C-SPAN) pg. 1</p>

Time	Series	Programmer	Copyright	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4:30am	CNN Newsroom/WorldView	(CNN)	FREE	News & Future Desk	News & International Desk	News & Business Desk	News & Science Desk	News & Editor's Desk
		(TLC)	YEAR	Basic reading skills using whole language and phonics techniques				
9:10am	Assignment Discovery	(DSC)	YEAR	Science & Technology	Social Studies & History	Natural Science	Arts & Humanities	Contemporary Issues
9:10am	History Channel Classroom	(THC)	YEAR	Documentaries and profiles on historical events, people, and places				
1-1:10pm	The Weather Classroom	(TWC)	FREE	Daily lessons on meteorology and weather phenomena				

*Note: The Power of Weather, a TWC documentary, aired at 1pm ET on 3/18.

- not closed captioned
Partial report based on available information